

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: ONLY
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Channel: n/a

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5/11/78

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 A-01 AID-05 SY-05 COME-00
ACDA-12 /076 W

-----074584 112106Z /21

O 112033Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5688

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(☒ Release) (☐ Excise) (☐ Deny)

Exemption(s):
Declassify: (☐ In Part) (☒ In Full) DECONTROL
(☐ Classify as) (☐ Extend as) (☐ Downgrade to)
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 3653

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS ASEC, ARA, AR
SUBJECT BOMB INCIDENTS

1. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL RECENT BOMB EXPLOSIONS IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OCCURRED ON MAY 11 AT 2 PM IN THE UNDERGROUND PARKING GARAGE OF THE GENERAL SAN MARTIN CULTURAL CENTER. THE BOMB HAD BEEN PLACED INSIDE A GEUGEOT SEDAN THAT HAD BEEN STOLEN EARLIER THIS WEEK. POLICE BOMB SQUAD PERSONNEL ATTEMPTED TO REMOVE THE BOMB BUT IT DETONATED, KILLING POLICE INSPECTOR HECTOR ROQUE RODRIGUEZ AND INJURING CPL. RAUL ANGEL RUSSO. AN UNKNOWN PERSON HAD CALLED, ALERTING THE CENTER TO THE FACT THERE WAS A BOMB IN THE BUILDING. NO LEAFLETS OF ANY SEBVERSIVE ORGANIZATION WERE FOUND IN THE AREA OF THE INCIDENT.

2. THE OVERALL INCIDENCE OF BOMBINGS IS DOWN FROM LAST YEAR. FOR INSTANCE, DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 24, 1977 THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 158 BOMB INCIDENTS IN THE GREATER BUENOS AIRES AREA. IN APRIL 1978 ON COUNTRYWIDE BASIS WE HAVE ONLY APPROXIMATELY TEN SUCH REPORTS.

3. RSO RECENTLY MET WITH COMISARIO MAJOR MARTINI,
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CHIEF OF THE EXPLOSIVES DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL POLICE.
SOURCE STATED THEY ANTICIPATE SOME INCREASE IN BOMB INCIDENTS BETWEEN NOW AND THE WORLD CUP BUT THAT OVERALL

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TERRORIST CAPABILITY IN THIS AREA HAS BEEN GREATLY REDUCED.

4. THIS DATE, THE POLICE RESPONDED TO A REPORT OF A VEHICLE THAT HAD BEEN PARKED ACROSS FROM THE US EMBASSY FOR THE PAST 3-4 DAYS. RESPONDING OFFICERS CONTACTED THE BOMB SQUAD WHO CHECKED THE VEHICLE, INSURING THAT IT DID NOT CONTAIN ANY EXPLOSIVE DEVICE. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND LA RAZON NEWSPAPER IN THIS EVENINGS (5/11) EDITION CARRIED THE STORY OF A BOMB BEING DISCOVERED OUTSIDE THE US EMBASSY. THIS IS NOT SO. SAME STORY HAS ALSO BENN CARRIED BY OTHER NEWS SERVICES. THE POLICE PROCEDURE IN THIS MATTER WAS STRICTLY ROUTINE. CASTRO.

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